

I recommend 1) the proposed turbine locations within natural habitat be completely avoided or minimized by placing turbines and associated transmission and maintenance roads to those areas currently converted to agriculture or non-native plant species, 2) the project be coordinated with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife in minimizing the effects of turbines on shrub steppe and steppe wildlife species, and 3) wherever native vegetation is disturbed and where it is converted to turbine pads or roads, an equivalent area be restored with native species from adjacent seed sources.

I support the development of alternative energy sources with minimal impact of the natural heritage values. Thank you the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

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January 31, 2002
To: Kent McHenry
CC: File
From: Dan Tamsky

RECEIVED BY BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT LOG#: MW0615-002
RECEIPT DATE: APR 25 2002

Review comments, Maiden Wind Farm (MWF).

Who in Yakima County Public Works has discussed MWF impacts with the proponent's project team?

Lewandowski Road is the only Yakima County road discussed in the EIS. I do not know of any other Yakima County – maintained roads that could be used to reach the MWF site. The first 370 feet of Lewandowski Road east of SR 241 have a bituminous surface treatment. The remaining 1.48 miles of county road are gravel or dirt. Lewandowski is not dust abated (per Matt Petrusiewicz 2/5).

A 24 – hour traffic count was taken just east of the state highway intersection between about 1:30 PM 8/17/2000 and 1:00 PM 8/18/2000 (Thursday and Friday).

The accident records in the County Road Information System (CRIS) database cover 1985 – 1997. Only one accident was reported in that period.

Paragraph	EIS	Comment
3.9.3.1	"This gravel 35-mph roadway turns into a private road at Sulphur Springs Ranch."	There is no posted speed limit on Lewandowski Road. The general county speed limit of 50 MPH applies. Safe travel speed would vary by location, weather, and road conditions.
	"The afternoon rush hour (4 p.m. to 5 p.m.) is assumed to be the period in which the maximum amount of traffic is experienced."	The results of the traffic count on August 17 –18, 2000, suggest that the peak period would be much earlier (2:30 – 3:30 PM).
3.9.4.1		The evaluation criteria look OK.
	"Construction...finish before dusk, limiting the number of vehicles during peak hour traffic periods..."	It is likely that construction worker travel will peak at the same time as general and school bus travel on Lewandowski Road.
3.9.4.2	"...because background traffic on these roads is very low, it is likely that the LOS would be C or better when project traffic is added to existing conditions"	LOS is not appropriate for discussing impacts on an unpaved road. Dust would become intolerable long before the vehicle – carrying capacity of the road was reached.
Table 3.9-3	Peak Hour Vehicle Trips = 269	Would all trips use every road? How long would each road be used for site access? Clearly the peak number of

		trips will not occur on every road for the entire construction period.
Mitigation		The mitigation measures appear generally adequate. There may not even be any houses or crops close enough to Lewandowski Road to be adversely affected by dust. However, I am concerned about the visibility problem that could be created by up to 200 vehicles using a gravel road within 15 minutes or so. Dust could create a safety hazard for construction traffic. The contractor should consider requiring workers to park at the end of pavement to eliminate this danger.

Table 3.9-1 entry for Lewandowski Road

Source	Classification	No. of Lanes	Annual Average Daily Traffic Volume	Hourly Design Capacity	PM Peak Hour Volume (not seasonally adjusted)	PM Peak Hour LOS
EIS	Arterial	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Yakima County CRIS	Rural Access	2 - width 18 to 32 feet	193 (year 2000)	does not apply to gravel road	31 (2:30 - 3:30 PM 8/17/2000)	does not apply to gravel road

B O N N E V I L L E P O W E R A D M I N I S T R A T I O N

Maiden Wind Farm

"I'd Like to Tell You . . ."

RECEIVED BY BPA
 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
 LOG#: MWDEIS-003
 RECEIPT DATE:
 MAY 02 2002

1. I think the environmental analysis would be better if: more wind machines were put in the areas of the state, saving the burning of coal & oil to produce our electric needs. the wind will be always with us. maybe not coal & oil deposits.

2. Other environmental resources you should consider: Using the maxime of the large dams to make electricity, also how about the tides of the Ocean.

3. Please consider these ideas for lessening impacts: Why not thin out our National Forests, using all the dry trees, etc as if we don't do something, we will lose all our timber land one of these days to wild fires. they use bark, etc at Kettle Falls, Wa to generate electricity.

4. I have these other comments: Put the young people, like the "CCC"s back into the woods, thinning trees, making fire break creating ponds, hiking trails, using all the waste to generate power, and having work for the young people in the big cities.

(If you need more space, please use the back.)

☐ Please put me on your project mailing list. (You are already on the mailing list if you received a letter or the Maiden Wind Farm EIS or Summary in the mail.)

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Please mail your comments by May 15, 2002 to:

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